UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

AZAD HIND

161 & 163, Cecil St., Syonan. ENGLISH EDITION Tel. Nos. 3491 & 3492 Ext. 7

Organ of the Indian Independence League Headquarters.

Vol. 2.—No. 43. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2605, SYOWA 20 7 Cents

TODAY and TOMORROW

The British Hoax

GENERAL Auchinleck, the British Commander-in-Chief in India, in his annual review of the war in the Council of State on Monday, spoke as if Indians should smack their chests because of India's contribution to Britain's war against the Axis Powers.

This is really adding insult to injury. For one thing, India has no quarrel whatever with any of the Axis Powers. Neither Nippon, nor Germany nor Italy has ever been guilty of any wrong to India. On the contrary, these countries have always been sympathetic to the cause of India's freedom. And Nippon, in particular, has manifested this sympathy in a number of concrete ways. The help, for instance, that she has rendered to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind which has been set up by the three million Indians of East Asia under the leadership of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose with the sole object of wresting India's freedom from the fell clutches of Britain, is something for which Indians can never be too thankful to the brave and chivalrous Nippon nation.

Indians at home are fully aware that India's salvation lies only in Axis victory. India will become free and independent only if the Anglo-American powers are completely destroyed. Axis defeat, on the other hand, will only rivet the chains of slavery all the more strongly on our Motherland. It is this realisation that forced the Congress ministries all over India to resign rather than co-operate with Britain and help the anti-Axis war effort. In the circumstances, the contribution which India is supposed to have made towards Britain's war effort is absolutely against her declared will. It is only another term for Britain's inhuman exploitation of India's wealth and resources — an exploitation which has impoverished the masses and forced millions of them to die of famine and pestilence.

Again, nothing can be farther from the truth than Auchinleck's impudent assertion about India's army being a volunteer army. It is a mercenary army, and nothing else, as Roosevelt's Special Envoy William Phillips has thoroughly exposed it in his report. It is an army recruited by the British-created famine in India. Auchinleck knows this for a fact as well as anybody else. If he or Lord Mountbatten believed that the big army which they have been able to recruit during the last three years under economic pressure was something more than a mercenary horde, there would have been no need for importing into India Chungkingites, West Africans and East Africans, New Zealanders, Australians, Americans and others. The truth about the British Indian Army is today known to the whole world, and a thousand Auchinlecks cannot fool them any longer.

MANILA WAR NOW TAKES NEW TURN

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Nippon Forces Launch Big Counter-Push Against Enemy

A Nippon Base at the Luzon Front, Feb. 19 (Domei)— Sanguinary street fighting raging in Manila unabated for the past two weeks with resultant American heavy losses in troops and materials has now taken a new turn with Nippon forces launching a combined counter-offensive against trapped enemy divisions from both within and without the Philippine capital. Crack Imperial forces north of Manila which had been biding their time, awaiting this opportune moment, yesterday suddenly struck along the entire northern line directly behind enemy forces operating in the Manila area.

Another Nippon force which advanced southward from the northern sector, completely routed an enemy mechanized force and captured a height north-west of Marikina, situated east of Manila, by early morning on Feb. 15 and continuing its relentless, powerful drive, the same Imperial units are now pounding enemy troops in Quezon City as well as the neighbourhood of Manila itself.

Nippon storm units penetrating deep into enemy lines on Feb. 13 and 14 at San Juan, Delmonte and west of Marikina, scored sizeable war results in infiltrating attacks against the enemy camp. Fierce fighting is still going on.

In Manila city itself reinforced Nippon garrison units are battling with added fervour on receipt of news that formidable Nippon forces have opened up a large-scale counter-offensive from the north toward the Philippine capital.

In fact, the Manila garrison has been so whipped up with enthusiasm over latest war dispatches that Imperial defence forces have started an offensive on their own with some Nippon units having already crossed the

(*Continued on next page*)

21 B-29's Downed In Tokyo And Environs

Tokyo, February 20 (Domei)— Twenty-one B-29's were shot down by our interception units during yesterday's raid on Tokyo and its environs, Dai Honyei announced at 3.00 p.m. today.

The announcement reads: "It has been ascertained that a total of 21 enemy "super-forts" was shot down, including those announced previously, in interception against the raid conducted by B-29's on the Nippon capital and its environs yesterday, Feb. 19.

"Of the 21 enemy aircraft shot down two were brought down by body-crashing tactics."

Anglo-American Economic Clash Is Held Certain

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Amery's Move To Erase Most Favoured Nation Clause Privileges

Lisbon, Feb. 19 (Domei)—The abandoning or drastic reduction of the most-favoured-nation clause in international trade was urged today by British Secretary of State for India Leopold S. Amery in a statement regarded as foreshadowing British intention to impose a virtual economic priority strangehold on its possessions, according to a London dispatch.

"We must give effective priority to purchases from the Sterling area as well as to our exports to that area," Amery declared, adding that after the war Britain would no longer be able to live on the "theories and assumptions which may have held good in the economic world of the 19th century," Amery urged control by tariff barriers.

Amery's statement assumes significance when one considers that any British move to reject the most-favoured-nation principle and to trade within a Sterling bloc would have widespread repercussions on American trade with Britain's possessions.

Britain's inclination toward creating an airtight Sterling bloc is believed prompted by Britain's staggering war indebtedness to its possessions which, according to British economists, can only be paid off by securing trade priority at the expense of other countries, such as the United States, which have managed to obtain trade advantages by the most-favoured-nation clause.

Enemy Position Near Pakkoku Badly Blasted

A Nippon Base at the Burma Front, Feb. 19 (Domei)—Nippon fighter units in Burma on the evening of Feb. 17 swept over the enemy position in the vicinity of Pakkoku in Northern Burma, setting ablaze four enemy armoured cars and heavily damaging 60 others.

In fierce dogfights with enemy planes which rose to intercept our raiders, our fighters shot down one P-38 and one small transport plane, besides heavily damaging one other P-38. Our planes also fiercely assaulted enemy pillboxes and blasted one bridge.

From this raid all our planes returned to their base safely.

INDIA GOVERNMENT FLOUT PUBLIC DEMAND; NATIONAL LEADERS NOT TO BE FREED

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Legal Hitch In Notorious Natal Anti-Indian Bill

Lisbon, February 19 (Domei)— Indian residents of Natal today won the first round of their vigorous fight against the anti-Indian legislation passed last year by the Natal Provincial Council when an Indian spokesman, appearing before the bar of the Assembly, convincingly proved in a heated debate that the measure was outside the scope of the Provincial Council's legislative powers, according to a Capetown dispatch.

Natal's anti-Indian ordinance concerning residential property and housing, expropriation and water supply were waiting the Governor-General's assent and the legal hitch throws the entire dispute again in the melting pot.

It is expected, however, that British residents of Natal, who constantly have sought to thwart Indian progress in the Province, will devise fresh restrictive measures against the Indian residents, as the controversial "pegging action" which the Natal Provincial Council sought to prolong, expires in March next year.

Natal Indian Congress members and other Indian organizations, it will be recalled, have been putting up an all-out fight against the anti-Indian legislation in question ever since its passage.

151,856 Casualties In British Indian Army

Lisbon, February 19 (Domei)— Indian armed forces collaborating with British have suffered a total of 151,856 casualties since the outbreak of the war up to the end of last year, Chandulál M. Trivedi, Indian War Secretary, revealed in the Central Assembly in New Delhi this morning, according to a New Delhi dispatch.

Terms Of Detention Of Congress Members Now Further Extended

The British authorities in India do not propose to release the thousands of Indian nationalists who are still under detention in spite of all the persistent demands from all parties in India for their release. This was revealed by Sir Francis Moody, the so-called Home Member in the British Viceroy's Executive Council.

Sir Francis Moody, addressing the Central Indian Assembly last Monday, told the members that the cases of the members of the Congress Working Committee who had been detained even without a trial, were examined again last month and that the British Government decided not to release them, but to extend their period of detention indefinitely.

He also stated that the subject of transferring a number of them from Ahmednagar to some other place was under consideration. He disclosed that one of the detenus, Pandit Govind Vallabh Pant, former Congress Premier of the United Provinces, was suffering from serious eye trouble and that arrangements were being made for an operation. Sir Francis did not say anything about the health condition of the other members of the Congress Working Committee who are still under detention.

Meanwhile, the anti-British attitude of the Indian masses has become so strong that even such a staunch supporter of the British Raj like Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan had to admit that the British Government is doing nothing towards a just solution of the Indian deadlock.

Addressing the so-called British Commonwealth Relations Conference in London, Sir Zafrulla Khan strongly criticised the attitude of the British Government and their policy regarding India. He added that the notorious Cripps' proposals had miserably failed to satisfy the Indians.

Heavy Fighting Now Raging On Iwoojima

Tokyo, Feb. 20 (Domei)—Nippon garrison units of Iwoojima intercepted enemy forces which started landing operations against the island yesterday morning and heavy fighting is now in progress, Dai Honyei announced in a communique issued at 3.00 p.m. today.

The communique reads: "The enemy started landing on Iwoojima on the morning of Feb. 19.

"Our units garrisoning the island intercepted the enemy and heavy fighting is now in progress."

AMERICA PLANS ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF INDIA

Lisbon, February 19 (Domei)— In a move to strengthen United States influence in India apparently with an eye toward future economic exploitation, American President Roosevelt has nominated George R. Merrell as United States Representative to India with the rank of Minister, according to a Washington dispatch today.

The latest appointment does not affect American Ambassador William Phillips, who will remain the President's Personal Representative to India.

The dispatch said that Merrell is already in New Delhi, where he has been serving as Secretary of the American Political Association.

Over 50% Of Raiders Downed, Damaged

Tokyo, Feb 20 (Domei)—Although the Dai Honyei communique released this afternoon only disclosed the number of "super-forts" bagged by our air defence units in the course of yesterday's raid by some 100 enemy aircraft against Tokyo and its environs, it is believed certain that at least 30 additional raiders were heavily damaged. Added to 21 enemy B-29's listed as shot down, by Dai Honyei, this means that more than half of the enemy raiding force was either shot down or suffered heavy damage.

While it was known that a considerable number of enemy raiders suffered damage these were purposely excluded from today's communique in order to avoid duplication resulting from damaged planes being subsequently shot down or receiving further damaging blows later at the hands of our interceptors. Interception put up by our air force and ground batteries was so fierce that enemy "super-forts" were unable to achieve their objective of blasting important military establishments and communication lines.

Donations To Frontline Soldiers' Hospital Fund

The following further donations to the "Frontline Soldiers' Fund" and to the "Hospital Comforts Fund," are received with grateful thanks by Major-General J.K. Bhonsle, Chief of Staff, Azad Hind Fauj:—

"FRONTLINE SOLDIERS' FUND

By Ceylonese Community,
Negri Sembilan..$2,000.00
„ Nk. G.M. Ampat, A.H.F. 15.00
„ Collection from Boxing and Wrestling Programme .. 10,002.00
„ Women's Section, I.I.L. Trengganu Branch..500.00
„ I.I.L. Selangor Branch..10,298.00
„ I.I.L. Seremban Branch 48.00
„ Charity Concert Collection by Health and Social Welfare Dept. Rear H.Qrs. I.I.L. 16,977.26
„ German Officers 500.00
„ I.I.L. Kelantan Branch....389.00
„ Ceylonese Community, Alor Gajah 143.00
„ Women's Section, I.I.L. Seremban..3,250.00
„ Members of the A.H.F.....2,251.00
„ Sep. Bishan Singh, A.H.F.....110.00

"HOSPITAL COMFORTS FUND"

„ One Unit of the Azad Hind Fauj....400.00
„ M.C.T.M. Banking Corporation K. Lumpur...1,000.00

Foe's Indiscriminate Raid On Kuala Lumpur

A Nippon Base at the Southern Front, February 19 (Domei)—Nippon Army Headquarters in the Southern Regions today announced that some 50 enemy B-29's based in Calcutta, flying in several waves, indiscriminately bombed the environs of Kuala Lumpur from 11.50 a.m. today.

By 1 p.m. the enemy raiders were repulsed by our ground batteries.

Germans Score Big Success In Silesia Sector

Berlin, February 19 (Domei)—n Silesia a complete defensive uccess was scored by German formations yesterday in the section of Strehlen-Kanth, south and south-west of Breslau, against particularly fierce Soviet attacks, the Fuehrer's Headquarters communique stated. The German garrison of Breslau is defending the city determinedly against the enemy attacking from the south and south-west, the communique added.

South-east of Lauban, German tanks threw the Soviets back. On the front north of Lauban to the east of Guben German troops are engaged in fierce defensive fighting. Pushing ahead from the area south of Crossen, the Russians reached the town of Guben but were thrown back by a heavy German counter-attack, frontline reports said.

In Pomerania north of Deutsch Krone new forces entered the field on both sides as the battle increased in ferocity. In co-operation with the Luftwaffe one German fighting group put 49 Soviet tanks out of action. In East Prussia the Germans reinforced their positions south of Braunsberg and north-east of Mehlsack.

A German attack against the Gran bridgehead north of the Danube is progressing favourably, the German High Command announced, in operations to frustrate the Soviet drive westward with Vienna as the ultimate objective.

On the Western Front strong attacks by the First Canadian Army failed in the area east of Cleve and on the Meuse owing to the determined resistance offered by German troops, the Fuehrer's Headquarters communique said. In the Goch section to the south the enemy advanced slightly, the communique added.

American forces which tried to force their way across the Roer River in the evening hours came to a standstill in German defensive fire. On the northern Luxembourg border formations of the Third United States Army have been attacking since yesterday simultaneously at the south-east rim of Schnee Eifel towards the south and from their Sauer bridgehead in a northern direction.

These attacks were held up in counter-thrusts shortly after they had been launched, the German High Command announced. In the Saar bridgehead fighting is going on for sections of the front positions east of Forbach. German counter-attacks in the area of Saargemuend regained lost ground.

In central Italy the fighting lull continued. Anglo-American terror bombers carried out minor attacks against western Germany yesterday. Retaliation fire against London was continued yesterday, the German communique said.

Foe Adventure On Iwoojima Proves Costly

(By A Domei Military Cor.)

Tokyo, February 20 (Domei)—Against enemy forces which landed on Iwoojima yesterday, Nippon garrison units on the island are putting up most gallant and fierce fighting to throw the enemy back into the sea. Our garrison units were fully prepared for the enemy operation and if is testified to by the fact that the enemy in attacking this tiny island suffered extremely heavy losses in warcraft and transports, while enemy casualties totalled 2,000 from the time they started landing yesterday morning up to noon the same day. The huge enemy losses were the result of preparedness by our units who have learned the tactics of intercepting the enemy in various war theatres on the Pacific front.

Another factor which brought about tremendous casualties is that the enemy plunged at the very point where our preparations were most complete. In effecting a landing the enemy selected the south-western coast of Iwoojima where our forces had placed the utmost stress in defending the island. In other words our forces were in a position to attack the enemy from two directions, namely from Suribachi Height on the south-western tip of the island and the eastern height.

By taking advantage of this strategical position our garrison units took a heavy toll of American lives. The enemy by making a strategical blunder in the selection of landing points, effected a landing on the south-western coast of the island instead of the north-western coast. Therefore the Nippon garrison units will fully utilize this strategically advantageous position to exact heavier toll of American lives.

Mass Meeting And Historic Drama To Highlight Azad Hind Day Today

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The Provisional Government of Azad Hind Day is observed today by Syonan Indians in common with other parts of East Asia.

There will be a mass meeting of Indians at the Syonan Branch of the Indian Independence League this evening at 6 o'clock when speeches will be delivered on the significance of the day and resolutions will be passed reaffirming loyalty to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and reiterating every support to the struggle for India's freedom.

A special feature of the programme which gives added interest to the day's observance is the staging by the Balak Sena leaders (following the meeting at the League premises) of a drama depicting the life of the Indian martyr, Udham Singh, who shot dead Sir Michael O'Dwyer, the ex-Governor of Punjab, at a meeting of the Indian Association in Caxton Hall, London, on March 13, 1940, to avenge the Jallianwallah Bagh atrocities perpetrated by Sir Michael during his governorship in 1921.

Full-Scale War Operations In P.I. Envisaged

Philippine Front, February 20 (Domei)—General Tomoyuki Yamashita, Supreme Commander in the Philippines, with his instructions issued on Feb. 17 to his entire command in the Philippines, disclosed that total casualties inflicted on the enemy reach some 60,000 and that his operational plan is progressing without a hitch. General Yamashita also revealed that full-scale operations by the main strength of our forces in the islands will follow henceforth.

He said our troops in the Philippines, displaying high morale, are carrying on the fight, achieving remarkable war results. He pointed out it was according to the original strategic plan that the enemy invaders were enticed into the central sector of Luzon and also the Manila sector and subjected to devastating blows. He stated that due to our smoothly progressing plan of operations, enemy casualties have reached 60,000.

However, he asserted, fighting up to the present constitutes a mere preliminary operation and full-scale operations by the main strength of our forces is to follow. He urged that our garrisons should display their traditional skill in orthodox and unorthodox strategies and accomplish their noble responsibility of securing national destiny by dealing crushing blows upon United States invaders.

Patrick Hurley Leaves Chungking For America

Lisbon, February 19 (Domei)—Major-General Patrick Hurley, American Ambassador to Chungking, left Chungking today for the United States in order to confer with his government, according to an Associated Press message.

Hurley's trip is being watched with interest as the latter recently was reported to have used his diplomatic influence in an effort to effect a political settlement between Chungking and Yenan during Chou En-lai's visit to Chungking.

Chungking Request For Aid Drastically Cut

Lisbon, Feb. 19 (Domei)—Overwhelmed by demands for rehabilitation funds, the United Nations Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Administration, now in session at Sydney, has been compelled to shear down to $600,000,000 the $2,600,000,000 request submitted by Chungking, according to a dispatch received here today.

Dr. Walter Hudson, U.N.R.R.A. Deputy Director of Supplies for the South-west Pacific, was quoted as saying that the Chungking requisition was drastically slashed as it was considered so far beyond the U.N.R.R.A.'s capacity to outlay.

War For Manila Now Assuming New Turn

(Continued from previous page)

Pasig plunging straight into the centre of the enemy line, causing consternation among the enemy.

Nippon garrison forces launching counter-thrusts against enemy invaders firmly hold the line running from the Intramuros or walled city, southward along Dai Toa, formerly Taft Avenue, to the former American McKinley army barracks. A sanguinary battle rages immediately to the east of Intramuros in the area centering around the Jai Alai and University of the Philippines, as well as along Pasig's southern bank and along Dai Toa Avenue to the Pasay area. A Nippon storming force on Feb. 15 slashed into American invasion forces in fierce hand-to-hand battle along Dai Toa Avenue and pressed the enemy back to the Pasig River, and penetrating deep into American lines are still engaged in fierce battle.

Meanwhile Nippon naval landing detachments also on the night of Feb. 15 penetrated enemy positions on the Pasig River, blasting several enemy defensive works, stranding six enemy tanks, and inflicting more than 300 casualties on the invasion forces. All members of the navy attacking force returned safely.

In the Pasay area to the south, the enemy has been continuously reinforcing his forces along the beach area centering around the Polo Club and attacking Nippon defences with tanks and armoured cars. Nippon army and navy defenders, launching fierce counter-thrusts at all points day and night, are firmly holding to their positions.

Meantime, it has been disclosed that Nippon artillery units on Corregidor on the morning of Feb. 16 instantaneously sank one enemy cruiser and several other warcraft out of a group of enemy warships which approached the island. American landing forces which landed that morning suffered heavy losses at the hands of Nippon army and navy garrison forces.

In the Clarke Field sector Nippon storming units on the three days from Feb. 13, in storming attacks damaged and set ablaze five enemy planes, destroyed 22 machineguns, and inflicted 660 casualties on the enemy.

Churchill, Eden Return To London After Yalta Confab

Lisbon, February 19 (Domei)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill returned to London this afternoon after an absence of about three weeks during which he attended the Yalta Conference, visited Greece and took part in the Anglo-American services conference with American President Roosevelt at Malta, it was revealed today.

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden also was reported to have returned to London.

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Printed and Published for the I.I.L. Headquarters in East Asia, by M. SIVARAM, "Azad Hind" (English Edition) INDO SINBUN SHA, 161-163, Cecil Street, Syonan City.